GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2736
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2016
Price Monitoring Cell
Suresh Shri Doddaalahalli Kempegowda

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up the Price Monitoring Cell (PMC) and if so, the details, role, responsibilities and objectives thereof;
(b) the details of the essential commodities for which prices were monitored by the PMC during the last three years;
(c) whether the Government has received all the necessary information on the price trends and availability of essential food items during the said period and if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and
(d) whether the Government has any proposal to set up any effective mechanism to control the prices of essential commodities and ensure their availability to common people at reasonable prices and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) : The Price Monitoring Cell (PMC), set up in the Department of Consumer Affair is monitoring, on a daily basis, prices of 22 essential food items which includes cereals (rice and wheat), pulses (gram, arhar, urad, moong and masoor dal), vegetables (potato, onion and tomato), edible oils (groundnut, mustard, vanaspati, soya , sunflower and palm oil) & others (atta, milk, sugar, tea, gur and salt). Price trends for last three years, based on the information from reporting centres is at Annexure.

(d) : The price trends and availability of select essential food items are monitored on regular basis at the highest levels, including by Committee of Secretaries, Inter Ministerial Committee etc. for appropriate policy intervention.

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